



FLEXIBLE DRINKING STRAW

The invention relates to flexible drinking straws, which ~~are attached~~^{accompany} the packaging of fruit juices, milks, coffees etc. and are bent to take up less space and to be handier.

- 5 The straws used to date for this purpose, ~~have~~^{bear} 9-10 reentrant overlapping folds. To bend to obtuse angles (e.g. 180°), due to the restricted number of folds, continuous external pressure has to be exercised. This pressure keeps being exercised by the packaging material after they are
- 10 packed in their final form. As a result the folds are permanently deformed and straightening of the straw anew is not possible. Also a problem is posed by the fact that all folds are expanded (unfolded) after bending of the straw.
- 15 The invention retracts these drawbacks and gives the straw the possibility to be straightened anew, almost without any damage.

Figure 1 shows indicatively a flexible drinking straw with

20 twenty reentrant overlapping folds.

To obtain straightening of the straw requires, first, the flexible drinking straw to have sufficient folds (more than ten), so that when it bends the folds are not deformed in the

25 least. Second, the flexible drinking straw is not under any form of external pressure. Therefore the straw, after bending, is let free to remain bent at the desired angle without external pressure. Following this the straw can be

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C L A I M S

1. The flexible drinking straws, which ^{accompany} ~~are attached to~~ packed fruit juices etc., **characterized in that** the number of reentrant overlapping folds is bigger than the maximum number of reentrant overlapping folds borne by the straws of
5 this type (10 reentrant overlapping folds).

2. The flexible drinking straws, which ^{accompany} ~~are attached to~~ packed fruit juices etc., according to claim 1 **characterized in that** the reentrant overlapping folds are sufficient, so that
10 when the straw bends the folds are not deformed in the least, while after bending, the straw is let free to remain bent at the desired angle without external pressure, whereas, following this, it can be packed in its final form.

15 3. The flexible drinking straws, which ^{accompany} ~~are attached to~~ packed fruit juices etc., according to claims 1, 2 **characterized in that**, the reentrant overlapping folds are sufficient, so that after bending certain folds remain contracted, like the first folds (1), also other folds remain
20 contracted interspersed among the expanded ones, as well as around the middle of the arch formed by bending of the straw.

A B S T R A C T**FLEXIBLE DRINKING STRAW**

The invention relates to flexible drinking straws that ~~are~~
accompany ~~attached to~~ packed fruit juices, milks, coffees etc. and are
bent to take up less space and to be handier, and concerns
the changes that render straightening of the straw possible,
5 which was impossible until now, and at the same time they
offer the possibility of increasing the effective length of the
straw.

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